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Commandant's vision focuses on Marines, extends Corps' capabilities for future conflicts

BY STAFF SGT. CINDY FISHER Headquarters Marine Corps, Washington, D.C.

The single most important weapons system in the Marine Corps' arsenal is the individual Marine, and the Corps' resources are aimed at enhancing this core capability.

That is the thrust of All Marine Mes-



Gen. Hagee

sage 018/05, signed April 18 by Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Mike Hagee. The Vision and Intent in the ALMAR updates the original guidance that was promulgated when he became commandant Jan. 13, 2003.

"We can talk about aircraft; we can talk about howitzers; we can talk about tanks; but the individual Marine is the most important part of the Corps,"

To remain the nation's force-in-readiness and to meet the emerging challenges of the 21st century, the Corps needs to reorganize to maintain a rapid response capability and technological edge on the battlefield. The commandant's Vision and Intent will do this through a focus on training, educating and equipping the individual Marine, in order to expand their battlefield capabilities.

The Corps' continued priority is the Global War on Terrorism, and Marines are doing a tremendous job in this conflict, Gen. Hagee said. But, the Corps also has an obligation to prepare for the future and "we believe that our future will be characterized by irregular wars," as stated in the ALMAR.

Irregular warfare, sometimes referred to as asymmetric warfare or fourth generation warfare, is "conflict that deviates from the norm," according to the Navy War College Web site.

"During Operation Iraqi Freedom when we marched to Baghdad, it was pretty much platoon against platoon, squad against squad, battalion against battalion," the commandant said. "In our case, sometimes, it was platoon against company and platoon against battalion – our platoon, their battalion. It was no match – they lost.

"The enemy learned that and they don't want to take us on in normal formation. They don't want to take us on one-on-one.

EE CMC, pg. 2

DI saves pinned driver

BY CPL. JESS LEVENS Chevron staff

A Company M drill instructor became a local hero May 4, when he saved a man's life in a San Diego McDonald's drive-thru line.

Staff Sgt. Jaime Nicholson was on his way to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., to join his platoon for the Crucible when he stopped at the McDonald's on Balboa Drive to grab a quick cup of coffee.

"I was about to order when I heard the lady say, 'Oh my God!' over the intercom," said Nicholson. "At first I thought someone burned the fries or something. Then I heard screaming."

The man at the pay window had dropped some change and bent over to pick it up, but he left his foot on the accelerator. The car jolted into the restaurant wall and its door closed on the man's head. The car was at a standstill, grinding against the restaurant wall.

"When I got out to see what happened, I noticed the engine was topping out at full RPM," said Nicholson, back at the McDonald's for a burger days after the incident. "I broke the car's back window and put the vehicle in reverse, then park."

The injured man was already unconscious.

"His head was purple and his eyes were bugged out like a frog," said Nicholson. "I thought he was going to die. He was bleeding from the mouth."

Medics arrived on the scene, pulled the unidentified man from his sedan and rushed him to Scripps Memorial Hospital. With emergency care, the victim survived.

Nicholson quietly went to Camp Pendleton after the incident.



Waiting for coffee in a drive-thru May 4, Staff Sgt. Jaime Nicholson saved a man in a freak accident. *Cpl. Jess Levens/Chevron*

"When I got there, the chief (dill instructor) asked why I was late," said Nicholson. "When I told him what happened, he was like 'Wow.' I guess that was a good excuse."

Nicholson's deed will likely merit the Navy and Marine Corps Lifesaving Medal.

"Ît's not what you expect to find at the McDonald's drivethru, but he's a hero," San Diego Police Department Sgt. Andra Brown told television reporters about Nicholson. "He saved a life today."

Nicholson remained humble about the situation: "I saved a man's life, and that feels good. But I just reacted. I think being a Marine and a drill instructor helped me in this situation. I am used to thinking on my feet."

He finished his Double Quarter Pounder and left the interview to rejoin his platoon on the Crucible.

Depot paper best among services again



Compiled by Chevron staff

Depot public affairs office Marines tallied several awards recently in interservice and Corpswide print contests this year, most notably garnering best tabloidsized newspaper among the armed forces for a second consecutive year.

The Chevron won its category in the Thomas Jefferson Awards Program, an annual military print and broadcast competition. In the Visual Information Awards Program, another Department of Defense contest, the depot's 2004 biennial report earned a second-place Military Graphic Artist of the Year award for a publication. Staff Sgt. Scott Dunn, depot press chief, designed the publication.

Previously in March, judges in the Corps' Merit Awards Program had endorsed the Chevron, the depot's weekly, as the best tabloid-sized newspaper to represent the Marines in the T.J. con-

test. The other armed services submitted their entries in the same fashion.

Chevron staff members collected three first-place Marine Corps awards and nine overall, but no individual awards advanced to T.J. contention. Nevertheless, the Marine Corps represented by winning seven Thomas Jeffersons, including outstanding new writer, outstanding flagship publication, best web-based publication, best photojournalism, best stand-alone photograph and best sports article.

Dunn will represent the depot at the DoD's combined journalism and visual information awards ceremony May 20 at the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Md.

Chevron staff members won the same Thomas Jefferson Award for works created in 2003. According to contest rules, tabloids are smaller than metrosized newspapers and measure 10 to 12 inches wide and 14 to 18 inches deep.



MAY:

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month







Regiment rules the rock in playoffs.

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ALL IN THE FAMILY

Like father, brothers, **Pfc. becomes Marine**

BY LANCE CPL. DORIAN GARDNER

The Marines are the few and the proud, but in the McLean family, few aren't Marines.

William C. McLean, 22, joined his father and two older brothers by becoming a Marine May 6. Only two sisters, 3 and 17, remain as the only civilian siblings – for now.

William's father, retired Lt. Col. D. Speed McLean, and eldest brother, Maj. Cameron McLean, attended the graduation ceremony, in which William marched with Company E as a private first class across Shepherd Memorial Drill Field.

Maj. McLean, 34, is the Support Battalion executive officer for Recruit Training Regiment here. The middle brother, Capt. Doug McLean, 33, could not attend the graduation because he is currently serving a tour of duty in Iraq.



Maj. Cameron McLean, left with brother Pfc. William C. McLean and father retired Lt. Col. D. Speed McLean. Cpl. Edward R. Guevara Jr.

Doug, just like his father, enlisted and became a sergeant before earning a commission, and William hopes to follow that same path.

"I do plan on getting commissioned," said William. "It is more responsibility and more leadership opportunities."

William came to the depot Feb. 7 from Memphis, where he grew up. He spent three years at the University of Tennessee before signing an enlistment contract.

"I have wanted to join as long as I can remember," said William. "I think the family tie had a lot to do with it."

CMC, from pg. 1

So they are attacking us asymmetrically,"

Examples of this type of irregular warfare are improvised explosive devices, the propaganda insurgents are using in Iraq and the Oct. 12, 2000 attack on the USS Cole in the port of Yemen, the general said.

To combat irregular warfare, "we are going to better equip, better train and better educate our Marines so that they can work faster than the bad guys," the general said.

For example, to combat IEDs, the Corps is developing technology to locate IEDs where they are assembled rather than wait until they are placed on the battlefield.

Marines can also expect more cultural education at centers such as the Training and Education Command's "Center for Advanced Operational Culture Learning" scheduled to begin operation in October at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

"A better understanding of the people we are trying to help and the people we are fighting – their culture, what they think is unimportant, what they think is important - will help us," said the general.

An awareness of cultural factors and how they impact the Corps' mission lead to better-informed decisions by Marines in the battlefield, which gives them a tactical advantage, said Dr. Barak A. Salmoni, an assistant professor of National Security Affairs at U.S. Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, Calif., during a cultural training seminar hosted by TECOM in November 2004. Better decisions are more efficient, more effective and faster.

"On today's battlefield, with irregular warfare, victory quite often goes to those individuals who can do something faster, working inside the enemy's decision cycle,"

The general is determined that his Marines will be the fastest on the battlefield. Sea basing is one of the concepts that will ensure this, he said.

In January 2003, the Navy and Marine Corps team put 70,000 Marines with all their equipment and sustainment into Kuwait in less than 60 days. Sea basing will increase this capability, the general said.

"(Sea basing) is going to make us faster. Sea basing is going to give us the capabil-

Marines Forever is an up-

starting nonprofit organization

designed to help Marines pay

for travel while on leave from re-

cruit training or returning from

deployment. For more informa-

tion, call Frank Ranallo at (615)

Marines Forever

290-0707.

ity to put a Marine Expeditionary Brigade of about 15,000 Marines any place in the world in 10 to 12 days," the general said. If the Corps can do that, "we change the

entire conflict equation," he said. Another concept discussed in the Vision and Intent is Distributed Operations.

This concept capitalizes on the capabilities of Marines, allowing them and the Corps to more quickly respond to a chaotic and ever-changing battlefield.

Distributed Ops is not a new idea, the general said. "It is a logical extension of our philosophy of war – maneuver warfare."

Maneuver warfare seeks to exploit an enemy's weaknesses, its gaps, seams and center of gravity. "You're actually outthinking the enemy so you can go against his weaknesses," the general said.

In Distributed Operations, a networked squad- to battalion-sized unit disperses over the breadth and depth of a much larger area of the battle space, according to the 2005 Marine Corps Concepts and Programs. The various elements of the squad, platoon, company or battalion remain connected, and situational awareness is maintained through information technologies.

The DO concept places greater responsibility on the individual Marine at the small unit level. It further decentralizes decision-making and leverages the skills of junior leaders.

USMCCCA photo contest

The San Diego County Chap-

ter of the United States Marine

Corps Combat Correspondents

Association announces its first

be given for patriotic photos tak-

en since Sept. 11, 2001. Interested

Recognition and awards will

photography contest.

"Ten to 15 years ago, we didn't have the real technology to enable us to take advantage of what the individual Marine can do," the general said. "We have that technology today.

"When (Marines) find that seam or weak point, they are going to be able to come back together (as a unit) and attack (as a unit). Right now, no one else has that particular capability."

Starting in June, the Corps will begin experiments to learn two things. The first is to determine what training Marines need to become proficient in Distributed Ops. The second is to identify the equipment that will allow them to remain connected to each other and to see what other squads or platoons see. To better meet the demands of future battles, the Corps is also shifting some of its capabilities, the general said.

During the next four years, the Corps is scheduled to stand up two additional active duty infantry battalions, three light armored reconnaissance companies, three reconnaissance companies, two force reconnaissance platoons and an air and naval gunfire liaison company. On the reserve side, the Corps plans to stand up an anti-terrorism battalion, two light armored reconnaissance companies and an intelligence support battalion. All are capabilities currently in high demand, said the general.

To accommodate this change there will



Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Michael W. Hagee speaks to Marines based out of Camp Al Taqaddum, Al Anbar, Iraq, April 6. Cpl Marsha N. Garcia

individuals are invited to submit

8x10 original photos with a \$10

entry fee to SDCC USMCCCA

PHOTO CONTEST, President C.

M. Nelson, 4970 Frink Avenue,

San Diego, CA 92117 by May 30.

All submissions should include a

title of photograph, and the pho-

tographer's name and address.

be a reduction in the number of artillery, tank and low-altitude air defense units.

Military occupational specialties totaling about 6,000 Marines will also be affected by the changes. Expect an increase in specialties such as intelligence, satellite communications, explosives ordnance disposal and civil affairs. A reduction in fields such as food specialist and fabric repair are also anticipated.

But Marines should know that the Corps is going to take care of them, Gen. Hagee said. "If they are doing a good job and they want to stay in the Marine Corps, then we are going to ensure that happens."

The Corps will also expend more effort to increase its counter-insurgency, counter-terrorism and internal defense of partner-countries.

Though the Corps spends a lot of time talking about and preparing for major combat operations, it spends a lot of time actually performing at the other end of the spectrum - small contingencies, Gen. Hagee said. "We should spend more time on cooperative security, training partnernation armed forces so that they can better address any security issues that they have. So ... if we have to go in, they ask us to come in and help, we already have a working relationship with them. And we can better help them. That's why we're standing up this Foreign Military Training Unit."

The commandant has given the deputy commandants and Marine Forces commanders various mission tasks to implement his vision, but it doesn't end there. The general charges each and every Marine to read the Vision and Intent.

"Truly read it and truly understand it," Gen. Hagee said. "Then, you will have an idea of where we are really going to put our resources, ... and you'll see that a lot of tha has to do with education. A lot of that has to do with increasing our cultural understanding of other people, other religions and that's also education. And you'll also see that we are going to spend more time on equipping the individual Marine to be successful in the type of battlefield that we think he or she is going to be on the future."

To read ALMAR 018/05, visit the 21st Century Marine Corps link at www.marines.mil.

National U.S. Marine Parents' Conference

SEND BRIEFS TO: The second annual National Marine Corps Parents' Conference will be held at the Hilton Hotel & Conference Center in

Kansas City, Mo., July 28-31. completed entry form with the For more information, call (608) 455-7276 or (260) 636-3102,

or log on to www.marineparentsu

dards of the U.S. Government.

edward.guevara@usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the stan-

vanished while I was listening to the battalion commander speak passionately on the topic of young Marines getting

Headquarters and Service Battalion leaders recently held a class for young Marines who were either married, engaged or thinking about tying the knot.

off my mind - the one for whom

I would do anything – was the

I have never spent longer than four

Tuesday was the first time I actually

saw myself and her living together, but

fect house on the perfect street quickly

thoughts of a perfect life in the per-

days in her company, but when I am

topic of discussion recently.

with her, time slows down.

engaged or married.

This is not a love story, just a true

It's been more than three months, and this is the first time I have had a relationship last this long. I feel as passionate about her as I did the first day we

Before I met Ms. Right, I imagined making a few more ex-girlfriends and getting on with my life. Apparently, things change. Falling in love at 19 was not something I planned.

Meeting Ms. Right changed everything. Plans for Marine Security Guard duty went out the window because I knew that asking someone I just met to wait three years until I came back would be a little much for the both of us.

BY LANCE CPL. DORIAN GARDNER Chevron staff



Leaders know junior Marines have questions about love

After my short time with her, I feel like I am ready to make that commit ment. But am I ready?

Hearing the chaplain, the sergeant major and the commanding officer talk about marriage just made me think, "I can handle it. I love this girl more than anything. Marriage is the only thing that sounds right.'

Listening to other Marines – married lance corporals – talk about their marriages made me think twice.

"It is one of the biggest commitments you will make in your life," said Lance Cpl. Luis M. Dagdag. "When you take on a marriage, you take on (your spouse's)

I never had a second thought that this was the girl I wanted to marry, but my biggest question was the timing. Was it right? I live in San Diego and she lives in Los Angeles. I am in the Marine Corps and she is in college.

Our long-distance relationship is just a three-hour drive for me. No trouble at all. Sitting in traffic on Interstate 5 for five hours on a Friday – I could do that. It was everything else that was worrying me. The life we might have after moving

'Before I met Ms. Right, I imagined making a few more ex-girlfriends and getting on with my life ... Falling in love at 19 was not something l

Moving, traveling and constant change in the environment is a life that awaits a Marine and his spouse.

planned.'

More questions: Is she ready for that? Would she make that commitment for

Problems like this wouldn't really help after the "I do's."

"Down the road after you are married is not the time to think about the possibilities," said Cmdr. Randal B. Craft, battalion chaplain. "Once you are engaged, you are on that road to marriage. You can turn back, but ultimately you are on that road."

A commitment like this could change my life, not only as a Marine, but also as

As spouses shared stories about overcoming their obstacles, I felt reassured. But a bad feeling came when I pictured those matrimonial lowlights - the argushoulders.

What spooked me were tales of quarrels and disagreements that stemmed from, say, not washing the dishes, not putting them in the dishwasher the right way or not having a cap on the toothpick container. Spouses shared all sorts of ugly details in our little meeting.

I have never fought with Ms. Right. We have never fought with each other, but one day it will come.

Not knowing her habits, or her not knowing mine, makes me hesitant about moving in together, though my urges speak otherwise.

After settling all the issues, the strength of our relationship shall tell us what will come.

My battalion commander, Col. Ana R. Smythe, said "You have got to have that spirit, that oneness, to connect on that level ... Take your time to make the right decisions. The relationship will change as you do."

I believe it.

After car bills, insurance, phone bills, food and the cost of living in San Diego, disposable income will not come easy. Living off base as a lance corporal in San Diego is near impossible, and living off base with a fiancee is not easy.

Well, she is not going anywhere, and I'm dug in at the depot. So what is the rush? Though marriage may not be the next step, I look forward to more time with Ms. Right.

Wills, estate planning depend on individual's situation

WHAT IS A WILL?

A will is a legal document that takes effect when an individual dies. The primary purpose of the will is to dispose of property after the service member 's death, according to his or her desires.

A will allows the service member to make important decisions regarding to whom his or her property will be distributed; how his or her estate will be shared among beneficiaries; who will serve as the administrator of the estate; and who will serve as quardian of any children.

When an individual dies without a will – intestate his or her estate is distributed according to the laws of the state where the deceased individual lived or where the property of the deceased is located.

Typically, state laws distribute property to the deceased's closest living relatives. A will, therefore, prevents the distribution of property from being governed by more than one state and allows the service member to make his or her own decisions regarding the distribution of their property.

Deciding whether or not to draft a will is very important. If you have any questions, please visit the Legal Assistance Office to speak with one of our attorneys. The legal assistance attorneys can help you decide whether you need a will, and if necessary, draft a will that suits your personal situation.

LEGAL

Legal Assistance Office

Because of the continuing Global War on Terrorism, Navy and Marine Corps units are deploying on a regular basis. Before deploying, one issue that often arises is whether or not the sailor or Marine needs a will.

Note that a will is not necessary depending on your personal situation. The most important factors to consider are marital status and whether you have any children.

Single Marines and sailors may not need a will. As previously mentioned, every state has laws designating who will inherit your property if you should die without a will. Typically, if you are single and do not have a will, the law designates your parents or siblings as primary beneficiaries. Your property will not be left to the state just because you do not have a will.

Even if you are single, however, having a will i recommended under three circumstances:

You may want to make a specific bequest. This means you want to give a certain piece of property or collection to a specific person. Examples of specific bequests are: "I leave my car to my brother John," and "I leave my gun collection to my friend Jake."

You may want to make a cash bequest. This means you want to leave a certain amount of money to a specific person. For example, if you want to leave \$200 to your cousin Ryan, this is a cash bequest and would need to be spelled out in a will.

You may want to disinherit a family member or give a portion of your property to someone who is not a family member. In most states, if you are single and die without a will, your property will pass to your parents in equal shares (50 percent to mom and 50 percent to dad). If your parents have already passed away, depending on the state, your brothers and sisters or your grandparents could inherit your estate. If you do not want this to happen, you should write a will.

If you are married, it is highly recommended that you and your spouse have a will. Having a will could save your spouse weeks or even months of court hassles and allow him or her to have access to your estate much more quickly.

If you have children, it is highly recommended that you and your spouse have a will. Most importantly, a will allows you to name the children's guardian. A guardian is the person or people who will have physical child custody if something were to happen to both parents. You can name one person to be the guardian, or you can name two people to be co-guardians. Additionally, you can establish a trust for your children. When you establish the trust, you can designate who will be the trustee. The trustee is then required by law to manage the trust property in the best interest of the children until they are no longer minors. Moreover, you can determine the age at which children can obtain the money and whether the trustee will have the ability to access the money for the benefit of the children. Additional details can be obtained from your legal assistance officer.

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PRESS OFFICER

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Tidy waves

Volunteers clean beach, learn to surf Pacific

PHOTOS BY
CPL. EDWARD R. GUEVARA JR.
Chevron staff

arines, sailors and family members recently surfed and cleaned up Pacific Beach during a depot Single Marine Program outing.
Early risers assembled at Crystal Pier, and SMP coor-

Early risers assembled at Crystal Pier, and SMP coor-

dinator Britney O'Connor said 15 volunteers showed up throughout the day.

Carrying large white trash bags and wearing latex gloves, the cleanup crew combed more than 800 yards from the pier to Pacific Beach Surf School. Volunteers stuffed 11 bags and discarded them in the beach's garbage drums.

Petty Officer 1st Class Omar Chavez, a depot hospital corpsmen, brought his 4-year-old daughter Alexi, who threw trash into the bag her father carried.

After the cleanup, Pacific Beach Surf School gave seven Marines two-hour surf lessons, which were discounted to \$20 apiece after O'Connor used SMP funds and the school took \$30 off a \$70 value.

"It was great to see the Marines in the community," said O'Connor. She said it was a beautiful day and everyone had a great time.











Sgt. Shannon A.
Vaughn rides a
tiny wave after
a two-hour surf
lesson by Pacific
Beach Surf School
instructors.
Vaughn joined six
other Marines for
the discounted
lessons.



Single Marine
Program
coordinator
Britney O'Connor,
left, and Sgt.
Shannon A.
Vaughn comb
Pacific Beach for

garbage.

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Company honor man Pfc. Jesse L. Jenkins rehearses with Platoon 3066 recruits May 6 at Shepherd Field before Co. I graduation. Pfc. Carlos Chavez/Chevron

Band Office

COLOR GUARD

SGT. J. HULLETE SGT. H. RIVERA

INDIA COMPANY



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Pvt. N. D. Gonzales

Pfc. J. D. Henderso

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fc. S. D. Hrncir

Pvt M Huntress

These are America's Pvt. J. G. Converse newest Marines and their leaders at Marine Corps **Recruit Depot San** Diego. Company I graduates 253 men

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Pvt. M. T. J. McGuire

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Pvt. B. D. Miller

Pvt C A Neal

Pvt. J. P. Oakley

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PLATOON 3071

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Senior Drill Instructor

Sqt. A. W. Schneide

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Pvt. F. A. Pena

Senior Drill Instructo Staff Sgt. S. D. Jones

Pvt I M .Johnson Pvt. J. W. Kartic *Pfc. B. C. Sims Pvt. A. N. Spardone Pvt. W. J. Stewart Pvt K R Sumpte Pvt. C. M. Sutcliffe Pfc. A. J. Szumila Pvt. K. R. Thomas *Pfc T C Titus Pfc J. A. Torres

Pvt. J. J. Tyler Pvt. J. Uravasquez Pvt. A. M. Valdez Pvt P W. Vallance Pvt. E. R. Vandermaa Pvt. W. A. Velasquez Pvt. S. M. Watt Pfc. D. L . Martin Pvt. J. L. Weeks Pfc. J. M. Whetter

Pvt. D. K. White

Pvt. J. J. Whitsor

Pfc. T. W. Wright Jr

*Pfc. I. J. Zuniga

Pvt. R. A. Zuniga

Pfc. R. R. Zuniga

Sgt. C. Williams Pvt. M. B. Hogue Pvt. S. M. Kohfield *Pfc. C. R. Lamb Pvt. J. T. Lao Pvt. J. A Lester



Recruited by

Pfc. J. L. Jenkins Corpus Christi, Texas

Staff Sgt. C. Villareal

PLATOON HONORMAN

Gunnery Sgt. J. Sunday

Pvt. E. Lopez-Martine:

*Pfc. M. A. Martinez

Pvt. J. A. Matos

Pvt. S. C. McDaniel

Pvt. J. J. Montes

Pfc. D. Morales

Pfc. E. M. Morales

Pvt. J. S. Navarro

Pvt. D. B. Newby

Pfc. M. A. Ortega

Pvt. C. J. Pinkne

Pvt. J. A. Polanco

Pvt. B. A. Powell

Pfc. R. C. Ramos

Pvt. A. E. Rivera

Pvt. R. C. Roland

Pvt. E. R. Salas

Pfc. C. L. Samayoa

Pvt. J. M. Sandoval Pfc. D. J. Schiller

Pvt. B. R. Schmidt

Pvt. B. A. Schollaert

*Meritorious promotion

Pfc. D. C. Shahan

*Pfc. A. Perez

Pvt. F. A. Mirandasibrian

Pfc. L. C. Kling

Recruited by

Robinson, Texas



Forth Worth, Texas Recruited by



PLATOON HONORMAN Pfc. J. J. Frislie Sioux Falls, S.D. Recruited by Staff Sgt. W. LucioVelasquez



PLATOON HONORMAN HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. M. A. Lefevre Blythe, Calif. Recruited by Recruited by Sgt. D. Lara

interests and boot camp experiences:



Staff Sqt. D. A. Lefebre



Marksmanship Instructor

Sqt. M. A. Anderson

PLATOON HONORMAN

Staff Sgt. J. N. Polly

Canton, Kan.

Recruited by

India Company answered Chevron's questions about their

best Meal Ready

Pvt. Joshua H.

Douglasville, Texas

A: Roast beef in

mushroom gravy

because it almost

tastes like real food.

Wilbanks

to Eat?

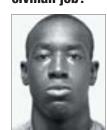
• What is your • What's the favorite sports team?



Pvt. Salvador S. **Duenus** Lodi, Calif.

A: San Francisco

Q: What was your worst civilian job?



Bobby D. Gulley Rosston, Ark. A: Working in a

chicken factory.

That smarts

College grad-turned-enlisted Marine learned training was hard to predict

SPOTLIGHT

BY LANCE CPL. DORIAN GARDNER Chevron staff

Three years into earning a biology degree, Josiah F. Schultz had it made as a college student and was about to graduate. But something was missing, which Schultz knew couldn't be found in any college classroom.

After Schultz had finished most of his credits and was planning for post-graduation life, serving in the military came

The El Paso, Texas, native decided to enlist after graduation, and he said he had no problem deciding which branch of service he wanted to join.

"It wasn't really a question; I knew that I wanted to be a Marine," said Schultz. "I wanted to conquer my fears. I signed up for the (infantry) field, and I figured that anything I was afraid of would be cured there.'

Schultz shared his decision with his mom and dad.

"We were very surprised," said Suzanne Schultz, Josiah's mother. "We told him that if this was his choice, we were proud of him and we supported him."

They were very supportive, according to Schultz, who said the news surprised his family because no one before him had served in the military.

Schultz told his parents he felt there were freedoms he enjoyed, and it was his turn to fight for his parents' freedoms, according to Suzanne. "I thought that was admirable," she said.

Schultz shipped off to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego wanting a challenge, but he soon learned that in recruit training, some challenges are hard to

His maturity and intelligence helped him stand out among the other recruits, according to Staff Sgt. Pedro R. Hernandez, drill instructor, Platoon 3067, Company I.

Drill instructors first chose Schultz to be the platoon's guide, but that leadership position came too soon and became too hard to bear.

"Being thrown into a place like this at such a fast pace and not knowing Schultz, who found that even marching with a guidon was difficult. "I just had so many problems with that stick." Schultz held the position for only two

"He did all right," said Hernandez. "The transition was hard for him, so we gave the position to someone else," said Hernandez.

Pfc. Jonathan R. Hiller – a recruit who served four years in the Army National Guard as a Black Hawk helicopter engineer – assumed the guide position.

"Around the fourth week, (Schultz) realized this is how it is. He kicked it on from there ... 110 percent."

Schultz experienced the conundrum that everyone wants to be the guide, but nobody wants to be the guide. The guide has the most leadership authority among recruits, but he also answers to practically every mistake they make.

"We really gave it to him," said Hernandez. "We knew that he was one of the smarter recruits, and that made him a target (worth challenging)."

After losing his position as guide, Schultz's drill instructors still gave him leadership responsibilities as one of four squad leaders. Recruit squad leaders generally direct about 15 to 20 recruits, so Schultz still had his challenges.

He said his earliest leadership experiences began in El Paso as a teenager on the baseball diamond – experience that has helped him put his leadership theories in perspective.

"It just helps to see everything on the field so you know how everything goes best where," said Schultz. "In sports, you can't lead from the back, and leaders have to be on top of their stuff."

As a squad leader, Schultz finally found his groove, and the training became more natural. He said leading a squad was something he could handle.

When Co. I arrived at Camp Pendleton during the second phase of recruit training, for field exercises and weapons training, Schultz found his niche with the other recruits.

According to Schultz, the biggest challenge during second phase was waking up in the cold air when sleeping outdoors – something all infantrymen must learn.

"During the second phase, it's not necessarily worse, but it is a little more complicated," said Schultz. "The new stress didn't faze me because I knew how to handle it. but the environment was different."

On a whim, drill instructors can



Pfc. Josiah F. Schultz's drill instructors made his training exceptionally challenging because his maturity and intellect stood out. Lance Cpl. Dorian Gardner/Chevron

platoon, the position was still within reach. Drill instructors pitted Schultz and Hiller in a physical training competition, but Hiller won and held his title.

"It was too hard to choose because they were both perfect for the position, so I just worked them out until there was only one left," said Hernandez. "They both have great characteristics about them. (Hiller) has that leadership experience and Schultz is a brainiac."

Nevertheless, Hiller and Schultz continued to work together within the

"They compliment each other very well," said Hernandez, adding that though Schultz did not graduate training as the

guide, the entire platoon respected him. According to Hernandez, Schultz

"He has got a self discipline, not the forced discipline," said Hernandez. "He doesn't just lock up for the drill instructors and wait for them to leave. He is disciplined when we are not around."

Schultz's goals exceed becoming a Marine. He hopes to one day become a commissioned officer, but he felt the right way to go about that was to enlist

Hernandez asked Schultz why he wanted to be enlisted instead of going straight to Officer Candidate School, and Schultz gave a mature answer.

"He told me that he wanted to learn leadership from the Marine Corps before he became commissioned so that he would be able to lead Marines," said Hernandez. "I think he found his leadership."

Brig. Gen. **Dennis J. Hejlik**

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Brig. Gen. Dennis J. Hejlik enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1968 and was honorably discharged in 1972. He graduated from Mankato State University in 1975 and was commissioned a Marine Corps second lieutenant through the Platoon Leaders Class program.

School in December 1975, Brig. Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, tion Desert Storm with I Marine low intensity conflict. In Au- Medal, and the Leftwich Award.

weapons platoon commander. In July 1979, he reported to Marine ferred to 2nd Marine Division Barracks in Virginia where he and served as the G-1 until served as a platoon commander assuming command of 1st Batand a guard officer.

His subsequent tours included 3rd Marine Division, aide-de- as the senior military fellow with camp to the commanding gen- the Council on Foreign Relations eral; 3rd Battalion, 8th Marines, in January 1996. He was assigned Weapons Company commanding officer and battalion logistics Commandant of the Marine officer. From 1989 to 1990, Brig. Corps in July 1999. Gen. Hejlik attended the Ma-After completing The Basic rine Corps Command and Staff as the principal director for spe-College and in the early 1990s cial operations and combating Gen. Hejlik reported to 2nd deployed in support of Opera- terrorism in special operations/

where he served as a rifle and Expeditionary Force. In November 1993, he trans-

talion, 2nd Marines. Brig. Gen. Hejlik transferred for assignment as the military secretary to the

Beginning in 2001, he served

as director, Center for Policy, Training and Readiness, U.S. Special Operations Command. Currently, Brig. Gen. Hejlik is the commanding general of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, Camp Pendleton, Calif. Brig. Gen. Hejlik's personal

gust 2003, he was reassigned

decorations include two Defense Superior Service Medals, two Legions of Merit, three Meritorious Service Medals, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, the Good Conduct





Recruit Training Regiment 1st Sgt. Dathan Edwards races down the court after an in-bounds pass. RTR dominated the game with its fast-paced offense. Cpl. Jess. Levens/Chevron photos

Regiment repeats

District is last victim as RTR rolls through tournament, takes trophy for second year



CG'S

BY CPL. JESS LEVENS Chevron staff

Recruit Training Regiment claimed its second consecutive Commanding General's Cup basketball league championship Tuesday by defeating 12th Marine Corps District 46-33 at the depot field house.

RTR jumped to a 23-11 lead early in the first half and rolled from there. The taller RTR team dominated every aspect of the game, especially on the boards.

"Rebounding really hurt us," said District's Pfc. Brett Middlebrook. "They had a lot of big men, and it gave them a huge advantage."

While District had trouble with fouls and virtually no offense, RTR drove down the court and put the ball in the hoop with little problems. At halftime, RTR led District 25-13.

RTR's 1st Sgt. Dathan Edwards commanded his team, and he had to step up the leadership when his teammate, Staff Sgt. Willie Shaw, left the game with an injured right ankle.

District saw the injury as a chance to creep back into the game. Middlebrook unloaded from long range while Sgt. Andrew Stewart weaved through RTR's big men in the paint. District narrowed RTR's lead to 39-30.

"That's when we had to stop them," said Edwards. "That's the closest anyone has come to us all season."

RTR tightened a few screws and resumed the onslaught. A few fouls and turnovers stopped District in its tracks. Middlebrook continued his long-range scoring, and Stewart did what he could inside, but District's lack of defense made it impossible to catch up.

RTR played keep-away from District's desperate full-court press as the clock wound down to the final buzzer. Regiment repeated.

"Our big men came out to play today," said Edwards. "We just kept pressure on the ball, and we didn't make many mistakes. It was a great game though. District gave us the closest game of the season."

Both teams had a bye in the first round of the playoffs, and easily tore through competition. District exacted revenge on Consolidated Personnel Administration Center, which gave District its only regular season loss. RTR finished the season undefeated.





Regiment's 1st Sgt. Dathan Edwards shoots a free throw after being fouled on a lay-up attempt. Edwards led RTR in scoring with 12 points.

(Above) 12th
Marine Corps
District Sgts.
Maktheng Bun,
left, and Andrew
Stewart mull over
a new defensive
plan for the
second half.
District trailed
by 12 points at
halftime.